



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
August 3, 2009
4:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Smith presided.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Present: Anderson, Chaney, Dietzman, Gerde, Higgins, and Smith.

Excused: Mayor Dennis and Hogan (arrived at 5:09 p.m.).

STAFF PRESENT: Ashton, Bourquin, Brachmann, Carothers, Copsey, Durgin, Halverson, Lackey, Leon and MacPherson.

PRESS: None present.

PUBLIC:

Neila Farley, 3942 NW Currawong Court, Camas, WA:

Farley reported that a class action lawsuit has been filed on behalf of homeowners with polybutylene plumbing that was installed between 1978 and 1995. Farley summarized the essence of the lawsuit and stated that she wants to inform the public of this situation as most people do not know about it and the legalities that are involved. Farley distributed literature pertaining to the lawsuit. Mayor Pro Tem Smith suggested that Farley contact the Camas-Washougal Post Record and relay the information to them for a potential story.

P.D. Groeneveld, PO Box 604, Camas, WA:

Groeneveld reported that the Clark County Fair starts Friday and distributed a copy of the scheduled events.

Groeneveld inquired whether or not the City of Camas offers a special sewer rate for seniors 65 years of age and older. Mayor Pro Tem Smith responded that there is not a program in place at this time, but that Council has discussed some alternatives for the future.

Groeneveld stated that she attends the Loaves and Fishes Steering Committee Meetings and inquired whether or not the City of Camas would be willing to sponsor the Valentine's event to be held at the Camas Community Center on February 12, 2010. Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked how much money it would cost to sponsor the event. Groeneveld responded that someone from the City should contact Ross Jonak with Loaves and Fishes for the specific details. Mayor Pro Tem Smith responded that City Administrator Lloyd Halverson would follow up on this matter.

COUNCIL:

Higgins commented that he looked up a website regarding the polybutylene issue brought up by Farley and it appears it does not pose a health and safety concern.

Gerde stated that Camas Days was very successful and the events were well attended.

Dietzman reported that she attended a special C-TRAN meeting regarding budget concerns and noted that C-TRAN is looking at changing some of the frequency of routes. Dietzman stated that she really enjoyed the Camas Days Parade.

LEGAL:

Verizon/Frontier Cable Franchise Transfer:

Shawn MacPherson, Assistant City Attorney, gave a brief overview regarding the proposed transfer of the cable franchise from Verizon to Frontier Communications. MacPherson noted that representatives from Verizon and Frontier were in attendance to present this proposal to Council and to answer any questions that may arise.

Renee Willer, Verizon External Affairs Manager, 20575 NW Von Neumann Dr., Beaverton, OR:

Willer gave a brief explanation of Verizon's background, how the transfer request was initiated and the process involved to complete the transfer. Willer noted that she believes the transfer will take 9 to 12 months from the announcement date to completion.

Larry Manion, Frontier Communications, 3003 Meadow View Court, Colleyville, TX:

Manion gave the history on Frontier Communications and stated that Frontier's objective is to retain customers and grow their market share. Manion summarized Frontier's technical, legal and financial qualifications for the transaction.

Willer interjected that from the customer's aspect, the only change they will see is the name.

MacPherson, Willer and Manion responded to questions from Council.

Chaney expressed concern regarding the aesthetics of the installation work that is currently being performed by Verizon. Chaney elaborated on the work performed in his neighborhood. Willer asked Chaney to provide her with the specifics for follow up.

Higgins commented that he has received several complaints regarding the aesthetic process and asked if there is a direct contact person at Verizon that citizens can call. Willer responded that she will provide contact information.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked and MacPherson responded that the next step is to bring this matter back to Council for formal approval. This matter will be placed on the August 17th Council Meeting Agenda for consideration.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Leadbetter Drive Professional Services Contract Amendment:

Monte Brachmann, Public Works Director, stated that a professional services contract amendment with MacKay and Sposito will be placed on the August 17, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration. Brachmann explained that the purpose for the amendment is for necessary additional traffic study and air quality analysis.

James Carothers, Engineering Manager, responded to questions from Council.

Stormwater Illicit Discharge Ordinance:

Brachmann reported that staff has met with City Attorney Roger Knapp and relayed the concerns brought up by Council at the last meeting. In response, Knapp has added new language regarding enforcement as requested. Brachmann stated that the City would not be required to provide an attorney unless there is jail time involved. If Council has legal questions Knapp will be present at the regular meeting to address them.

Chaney stated that he is very pleased with the draft and how responsive the effort was to address all of the comments made by Council.

Brachmann stated that this matter will be placed on the August 17, 2009, Council Agenda for consideration.

Stormwater Ordinance Committee:

Brachmann reported that he has assembled a list of potential candidates that may be willing to serve on the stormwater ordinance committee and is anticipating confirmation from the Mayor as to which two Council members will serve on the committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked Council who amongst them was willing to volunteer to serve on this committee. Chaney and Dietzman replied that they would.

Brachmann responded that he will speak with Mayor Dennis to confirm the remainder of the committee.

Surplus Vehicles:

Brachmann stated that a list of surplus vehicles will be coming before Council for consideration in the next month. Brachmann noted that the vehicles will include police cruisers, a dump truck and a fire engine.

Fire Station 41 Remodel Change Order:

Brachmann declared that a change order for the fire station remodel will be placed on the August 17, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration. Brachmann noted that the changes are related to additional asbestos removal, electrical, cabling and plumbing.

Otak Professional Services Agreement Amendment:

Brachmann explained the purpose of the amendment to the professional services agreement with OTAK on the Washougal River Trail Project. Brachmann noted that this matter will be placed on the August 17, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration.

Miscellaneous and Updates:

Brachmann reported that micro surfacing is scheduled to take place August 26th through August 29th. Brachmann displayed a map illustrating the roads that are scheduled for micro surfacing which includes the Lake Road. Brachmann asked Council for feedback regarding the potential closure of the Lake Road on the 26th. Council had no objections to the closure.

Brachmann informed Council that staff is working on establishing a program to inspect grease traps at restaurants and other food preparation facilities. The program will educate and assure that grease traps are maintained properly. Brachmann noted that staff will be working with the City of Vancouver and Clark Regional Sewer District who already have programs in place.

Brachmann responded to questions from Council.

In response to Groeneveld's inquiry regarding senior rates for sewer charges, Brachmann stated that he plans to work with consultants on the sewer rates. Two alternatives that he wants to explore is offering senior rates and charging a sewer rate that is proportionate to the water usage.

ADMINISTRATION:

Budget Update:

Halverson reported that there has not been any major budget news or trends that have developed over the past month. Halverson stated that there has been a slight increase in building activity and gave his analysis of the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) data.

Halverson commented that Sales Tax appears to be close to target and noted that a substantial portion of it is attributable to school construction.

Halverson stated that the projected ending General Fund balance seems to be supported by the July data and that the framework for the budget is very restrained. Halverson affirmed that that with great restraint and cooperation, the projected General Fund goal is approximately one percent over the 2009 adopted base and a bit less than the actual 2008 expenditures. Halverson stated that staff will continue to monitor the budget.

Miscellaneous, Follow up on Proposed Health Legislation Subject and Scheduling:

Halverson gave a brief recap regarding the proposed health care reform resolution request that the City received from the Clark County Health Department. Halverson reiterated that a representative from Clark County is willing to give a presentation at a Council Meeting.

Halverson asked Council for direction.

Higgins summarized the essence of the request and stated that he is not comfortable endorsing a national policy. Council concurred.

PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk